TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(*OFFICIAL REPORT.*)

Saturday, 2nd August, 1924.

The Council met again in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, at Eleven Thirty-three of the Clock, with the President in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12*—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council-table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Orders for Goods exhibited at the British Empire Exhibition.

25. MR. C. SANKARA MENON (*Quilon*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether, as a result of the exhibits sent to the British Empire Exhibition, any orders have been received by any of the mercantile firms in the State for any kind of goods exhibited there?

(*b*) If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state the names of the firms or merchants that have received such orders and the value and the quantity of goods so ordered?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Government have no information about orders, if any, received by mercantile firms. Dr. Kunjan Pillai has sent to the Government a list of addresses of thirty-one wholesale buyers who have made enquiries of Travancore products. The list has been sent to the Director of Industries for circulation among interested firms and it has also been published in the *Government Gazette* dated the 29th July, 1924.

(*b*) In view to the answer to part (*a*), this does not arise.

Retirement of Mr. Thomas Varghese, Assistant Sirkar Vakil.

26. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state on what grounds Mr. Thomas Varghese, Assistant Sirkar Vakil, Kottayam, was given another extension of service now?

G. P. T. 50. 310. 28-8-24.
Vol. V, No. 3. B

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. M. N. Pillai.]

(*b*) (i) Is it a fact that the Government, under Mr. Viraraghava Aiyangar, passed final orders retiring Mr. Thomas Varghese, and that the fact was communicated to Mr. Varghese?

(ii) If so, why did the Government subsequently cancel that order and give an extension of service to Mr. Varghese?

(iii) At whose instance was this done?

(*c*) Will they be pleased to place on the table a copy of the order sanctioning a further extension of service to Mr. Varghese?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) The Head Sirkar Vakil recommended that Mr. Varghese should be granted one year's further extension of service with a view to enable him to close successfully the conduct of certain important Sirkar suits of which he had already been in charge. Before doing so in writing, he explained personally to the Dewan the necessity for the extension. In the absence of the Dewan, orders were passed refusing further extension. On a further representation by the Head Sirkar Vakil to the Officer in charge of the Administration, the latter ordered that the question should lie over for disposal by the Dewan. Government then sanctioned the original recommendation of Mr. Ananda Rao in the circumstances mentioned above.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is there any instance in which the case of an officer whose retirement was sanctioned has been taken up again and further extension granted?

PRESIDENT: It is not a supplementary question. It does not arise out of the question asked and the answer furnished to it.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Do the Government think that no man now employed in the service as Sirkar Vakil or to be appointed hereafter will be able to cope with the cases that are now entrusted to Mr. Thomas Varghese?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There are persons who can cope with the work.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Then why was the extension granted?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Because Mr. Thomas Varghese was in charge of five civil suits which involved extensive landed interests. He has perambulated the land and is thoroughly conversant with the facts and circumstances of each of these cases.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is it not possible for Mr. Thomas Varghese to be able to instruct the man who is to succeed him?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Local knowledge can be obtained only by perambulation, not by instruction.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is it not possible for Mr. Varghese before he hands over charge to his successor to instruct him? Cannot the successor perambulate the area?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, he can; but that will entail additional expenditure to Government in the shape of travelling allowance.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know what the opposite party does in this case?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise out of this question.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is not this a justification for extending the service of Sirkar Vakils till they die?

PRESIDENT: I must disallow that question. No question of death arises now. Your question is hypothetical.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Supposing this case is not closed before the end of this year; will they extend the service of Mr. Varghese?

PRESIDENT: That again is hypothetical.

Dr. K. Raman Tampi's Claims to act as Darbar Physician.

27. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state who was appointed Ag. Darbar Physician in the last leave vacancy of the permanent Darbar Physician, Dr. P. N. Lakshmanan?

(*b*) Is not Dr. K. Raman Tampi senior to Mr. S. T. Ponnuswami Pillai?

(*c*) If so, why have Dr. Raman Tampi's claims been overlooked in filling the leave vacancies of the Darbar Physician in the past?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Mr. S. T. Ponnuswami Pillai was put in charge of the Darbar Physician's duties.

(*b*) No question of seniority arises as between Dr. K. Raman Tampi and Mr. Ponnuswami Pillai as the two officers belong to different departments.

(*c*) This does not arise in view to the answer to part (*b*).

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): In view of the fact that Dr. Tampi is senior in service and possesses high English qualifications from English Universities, will the Government be pleased to state why the Darbar Physician did not recommend Dr. Tampi to act as Darbar Physician?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer is there.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. Kumara Pillai]

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is it not the custom that when the Darbar Physician takes leave the doctor in charge of the Military Hospital is put in charge of the Darbar Physician's office?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is no such established custom.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Are there not instances?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There might have been instances.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is it not a fact that the Darbar Physician did not recommend Dr. Tampi because of an ill-feeling?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I think, Sir, that is not a supplementary question.

PRESIDENT: It is not a supplementary question. The Darbar Physician has nothing to do with that appointment.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Then why was not the Military Surgeon appointed to be in charge of the Darbar Physician's post?

PRESIDENT: There is the answer.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is that not the custom?

PRESIDENT: You have already put that question and it has been answered.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is it not a fact that Dr. Madhavan Pillai acted as the Darbar Physician when the permanent Darbar Physician went on leave?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I claim notice of that question.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Were Dr. Perkins and Dr. Miller acting at any time as Darbar Physicians when they were in charge of the Military Hospital?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Dr. Perkins acted.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Do not the Government think that this is an injustice?

PRESIDENT: That is a matter of opinion and it does not arise at all out of the question already answered.

Dr. K. Raman Tampi's Claims to act as Darbar Physician.

28. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state who was appointed Ag. Darbar Physician in the last leave vacancy of the permanent Darbar Physician, Dr. P. N. Lakshmanan?

(*b*) Is not Dr. K. Raman Tampi senior to Mr. S. T. Ponnuswami Pillai?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(c) If so, why have Dr. Raman Tampi's claims been overlooked in filling the leave vacancies of the Darbar Physician in the past?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to question No. 27

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): Part (b) അതിനുപറഞ്ഞിട്ടുള്ള മറുപടി "No question of seniority arises as between Dr. K. Raman Tampi and Mr. Ponnuswami Pillai as the two officers belong to different departments." ഇവ എങ്ങനെ രണ്ടു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളാകുന്നു എന്നു മനസ്സിലാകുന്നില്ല.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): ഒന്നു മെഡിക്കൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു; മറെറാന്നു മിലിട്ടറി ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): മിലിട്ടറി ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ മി. രാമൻതമ്പി എന്തു ചെയ്യുന്നു?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): മെഡിക്കൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ മി. രാമൻതമ്പി ഡാക്ടർ ആണു.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): ഇപ്പോൾ ഡർബാർ ഫിസിഷ്യൻ രണ്ടോ മൂന്നോ മാസത്തെ അവധി എടുത്താൽ മി. പൊന്നുസ്വാമിപിള്ളയുടെ സ്ഥാനത്തിരിക്കുന്നവർക്കു മാത്രമേ ആക്ടിംഗ് ഡർബാർ ഫിസിഷ്യന്റെ ജോലി നോക്കുവാൻ പാടുള്ളു എന്നുണ്ടോ?

PRESIDENT: It is a hypothetical question; it does not arise.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): It arises, Sir. The answer to the question is: "No question of seniority arises as between Dr. K. Raman Tampi and Mr. Ponnuswami Pillai as the two officers belong to different departments."

PRESIDENT: Exactly. But you are putting a hypothetical question, *viz.*, if the Darbar Physician goes on leave for two months or three months, what will be done? That question cannot be allowed.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): രണ്ടു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലേയും ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു തമ്മിൽ യാതൊരു ബന്ധവുമില്ലേ?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): സാധാരണമായിട്ടു ബന്ധമില്ല. രണ്ടും രണ്ടു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറാണല്ലോ.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): ഇവിടത്തെ മെഡിക്കൽ സർവ്വീസിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്ന ഒരാൾ മറെറാരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ പോയാൽ അവിടത്തെ ബന്ധം വിടുന്നതായി ഗവർൺമെൻറ് വിചാരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

PRESIDENT: There is the answer; these are two different departments.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. A. Hoogewerf.]

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Kilavankod*): അതു സമ്മതിക്കുന്നു. രണ്ടു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറും ഇന്നതാണെന്നു വ്യാഖ്യാനം കൊണ്ടു മനസ്സിലായി. ഒരാൾ അതിൽ ഒന്നിൽ നിന്നു മറൊന്നിൽ പോയാൽ അവിടത്തെ അവകാശം മുഴുവനും വിട്ടുപോകുമോ എന്നാണു ചോദ്യം?

PRESIDENT: Of course, it follows. If the departments are different, it means that.

Opium and Ganja Stock.

29. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(i) the quantities of opium and ganja written off the accounts during the years 1096, 1098 and up to the end of Dhanu, in 1099, on the recommendation of the Excise Commissioner, and their value;

(ii) the quantities of opium and ganja purchased from the Madras Stores during these years;

(iii) the quantities sold for consumption during these years, and the value thereof; and

(iv) the quantities that remained in the stores in the Excise Commissioner's office at the close of each of these years and their value?

(*b*) Has the result of the stock-taking of opium been regularly reported?

(*c*) Who is the officer in charge of the opium and ganja stores and what are his responsibilities?

(*d*) Are the Government aware that there were instances of theft of ganja from the stores in the Excise Commissioner's office in 1097 and in the previous years, and, if so, whether such instances were reported, the dates of such reports, the names of the persons involved in the same, the recommendations made by the Commissioner for punishing such persons and the action taken by the Government on such reports?

(*e*) Are they aware of the fact that the rules and standing orders relating to the storage and issue of these drugs in the central stores in the Excise Commissioner's office and in the stores of the several Assistant Excise Commissioners' offices are not strictly adhered to?

(*f*) If the answer is in the affirmative, will they be pleased to look into the whole matter and state the result thereof?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly